TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

May 13, 2003 LB 759

Senators wishing to speak are Senators Engel, Vrtiska, Chambers, Beutler, Senator Dwite Pedersen, and Senator Brashear. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, members of the body, I know our surrounding states do tax motor vehicle repairs -- Iowa, South Dakota, Wyoming, et cetera--and so it is a tax that you're not going to have people running back and forth to get your cars repaired. I have, like at where I live in Sioux City, Iowa is where you have to almost go to get your cars repaired, and I've been paying this sales tax quite some time. But what I really want to say is older vehicles...I've got a 1979 Pontiac that I (laugh)...that we purchased from my wife's estate, very good, nice little car, and it's old. But you know what it costs to license that car? It costs \$28 a year to license the car. So I think if you put things in perspective here, it costs you, you keep an older car, if you keep it a long time, you do have more repairs, but it costs you so little to license them, so you have a little leeway there. On a newer car you, like I've got one car costs me \$600 a year to license, and repairs on that thing, when you do have them, it costs a lot of money. But complaining about that at all because that's the way our system works, but I just want to get everything in perspective Older cars, it doesn't hardly cost you anything to have them on the road, but it does cost a little more to maintain 80. And again, and what Senator Landis and others have said, every dollar we take out of this, are we going to affect the poor in some other area, like Medicaid, Medicare, Medicaid, et cetera, et cetera? So I think that's what we have to look at, is where are we being the most fair with those people of limited means? With that, I return the rest of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Vrtiska, on the Preister amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I, too, like Senator Bourne, have had some real difficulty, number one, because we're trying to figure out where to get the money from at a time we don't know what the appropriations. But be that as it may, to the issue at hand, I have a deep sympathy